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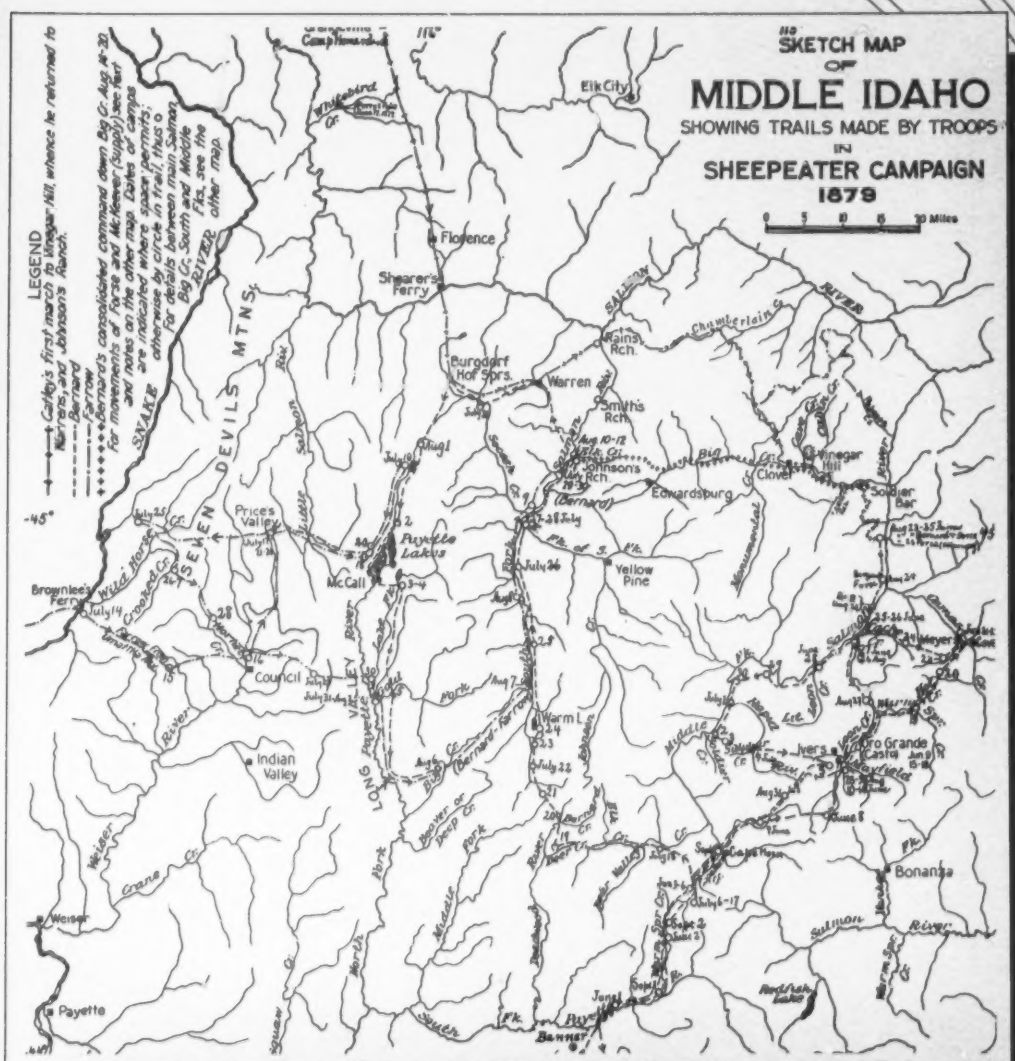

In This Issue: Interview with Neidy Messer, Idaho Writer-In-Residence
Second White House Conference

Idaho Librarian

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Editors: Leland Hunsaker and Bruce Bills

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A case in point...

Recently I had the opportunity to set up a computer catalog terminal in a small branch library in northern Idaho. While I struggled to get the terminal to work, the conversations I overheard in the library bring an interesting view of library service in Idaho. "How is the harvest going?" "Would you like a warm ginger snap cookie and coffee?" "That new book is in for you and I saved it for you." "Look at our new computer."

Library service can take on many forms in a state such as ours. It ranges from close personal attention and friendships to automated catalogs and circulation systems where the patron is alive and well in this great state. An entire history of library service in the state could be seen that day from service in small rural libraries to the future of automation in libraries and access to holdings around the state. One thing hasn't changed. Service to the patron is the prime responsibility. With the advent of automation, access and service may improve, but I believe service and close personal attention to the patron must be kept as the number one goal. As illustrated in the library conference in Coeur d'Alene, the difference between cold, hard automation and personal attention to the patron is that the staff in the library can make the difference.

Throughout the history of libraries in the state of Idaho, the Idaho Library Association has been here to promote the organization and development of better library service. In 1915 the Idaho State Library Association (ISLA) was organized. Thus this year we celebrate our 75th anniversary. Throughout the association's history, libraries have had to cope with geography and limited funds while still providing service to the citizens of the State. We still struggle today with the same issues, but, because of the Idaho Library Association and other statewide library agencies, we can advance the common interest of libraries in the State of Idaho.

I would hope that in some small way the Idaho Library Association played a role in fostering that small library I visited where the patron still received personal attention and the patron could have automated access to collections within the region. Libraries such as this exist all over the state, but if you are driving north on 95 and you smell fresh ginger snap cookies and coffee, pull in and visit the library that is behind the Grange Hall at Craigmont, Idaho, and ask Francie, "How is the harvest going?"

David Case

Idaho Academic Library Statistics 1989, June 30, 1989, compiled by Tim Brown, Boise State University

		BSU	C OF I	CSI	ISU	LCSC	NIC	NNC	RICKS	U OF I	UI LAW
STAFF, FTE (incl. vacancies)											
1.	Professional	13.00	2.00	3.00	11.50	3.00	3.50	3.00	10.00	22.00	4.00
2.	Nonprofessional	27.63	5.50	9.00	24.00	6.00	3.75	2.00	13.00	35.00	5.00
3.	Student Assistants	15.14	5.00	1.23	16.40	4.60	1.00	9.40	41.00	15.00	7.00
4.	Total Staff	55.77	12.50	13.23	51.90	13.60	8.25	14.40	64.00	72.00	16.00
LIBRARY EXPENDITURES											
5.	Salaries and Wages	972,855	112,850	204,596	821,882	230,780	157,354	155,930	713,693	1,248,067	197,633
6.	Collections	684,332	153,838	45,180	663,302	94,082	86,285	71,871	255,129	1,045,885	270,983
7.	Preservation	16,439	4,500	0	9,850	3,000	4,000	700	4,791	36,449	5,598
8.	Equipment	41,206	NA	7,745	64,853	25,468	24,104	2,095	53,038	37,057	37,235
9.	Contracted Computer Services	113,398	17,250	0	76,350	21,143	0	13,400	70,912	150,992	10,420
10.	Other Operating Expenditures	122,385	33,390	21,387	166,166	46,628	32,615	49,305	84,334	84,886	42,516
11.	Total Expenditures (all sources)	2,154,676	321,828	278,908	1,802,403	421,101	304,358	293,301	1,181,897	2,603,336	564,385
LIBRARY COLLECTIONS											
12.	Books, Bound Ser., & Govt Docs (vols.)	364,531	144,544	42,413	401,904	97,213	35,493	126,532	144,146	715,103	103,800
12a.	Volumes Added	14,671	4,614	2,694	8,411	2,275	700	2,455	4,146	21,540	5,029
13.	U.S. Government Documents (pieces)	108,545	75,000	NA	338,348	inc in 12	0	9,028	236,511	876,969	NA
14.	Idaho State Publications (titles)	448	NA	NA	20,451	1,127	0	unknown	33,562	11,312	89
15.	Current Serial Subscriptions	4,320	653	716	3,043	719	736	992	750	10,503	2,351
16.	Microforms										
	Book Titles	1,054	200	0	1,987	20,000	NA	12,700	inc below	NA	41
	Serial Titles	1,082	232	12	1,582	318	200	390	inc below	NA	148
	Govt. Document Titles	NA	0	0	1,498	0	NA	3,682	151,232	NA	0
17.	Total Physical Units of Microforms	840,811	70,000	18,957	1,396,680	106,623	4,550	75,378	9,601	616,424	119,937
18.	Manuscripts and Archives	2,419	350	24	490	200	0	259	545	4,064	0
19.	Cartographic Materials (physical feet)	115,860	410	1,427	42,093	200	0	588	13,921	145,517	0
20.	Graphic Materials (physical units)	35,340	0	472	NA	14	0	NA	8,264	101,009	0
21.	Audio Materials (titles)	13,355	77	220	NA	1,587	3,636	2,671	6,869	2,800	109
22.	Films (titles)	3,349	33	34	NA	1,145	7,467	NA	522	0	1
23.	Video Materials (titles)	82	54	693	NA	297	614	NA	2,336	4	70
24.	Machine Readable Materials (titles)	NA	225	0	NA	2	3	NA	140	6	0
25.	Other Library Materials (titles)	17,026	0	0	NA	505	NA	1,572	42	0	0
LIBRARY LOAN TRANSACTIONS/SCHEDULE											
26.	General Collection	148,324	11,972	12,941	79,492	47,861	10,217	53,922	187,345	118,475	NA
27.	Reserve Collection	23,089	7,000	5,194	13,200	8,543	5,826	3,593	46,907	50,982	NA
28.	Interlibrary Loans Provided	4,903	247	15	1,145	778	57	375	550	13,924	680
29.	Interlibrary Loans Received	2,778	314	1,267	1,375	2,389	411	292	608	5,882	212
30.	Public Service Hours per Typical Week	91.5	88.0	67.0	87.0	82.0	75.0	81.0	83.0	109.0	98.0